

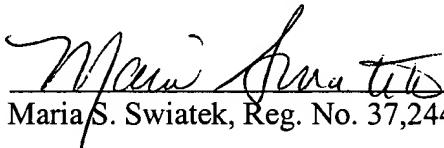
REMARKS

This amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action and Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated October 9, 2003. Claims 14, and 49 are currently amended to more clearly point out and distinctively claim the invention. Claim 14 is amended to recite a specific propellant consisting essentially of a mixture of one or more paraffin waxes and carbon black in a certain concentration range. Claim 49 is amended to further recite the propellant composition. Claim 19 is presently canceled. Claims 1 to 13, 15 to 18, and 20 to 48 were previously cancelled.

The Examiner is respectfully referred to the Remarks Section beginning on page 4 of the Amendment filed on September 22, 2003 for Applicant's substantive remarks responsive to the Office Action dated April 22, 2003.

Based on the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that the application is now in condition for allowance. If any matters can be resolved by telephone, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees to Deposit Account No. 50-2319 (Order No. A-67587-1/AJT/MSS).

Respectfully submitted,



Maria S. Swiatek
Maria S. Swiatek, Reg. No. 37,244

DORSEY & WHITNEY LLP
4 Embarcadero Center, Suite 3400
San Francisco, CA 94111-4187
Telephone: (650) 494-8700